

GIFT A MAJOR MILESTONE FOR THEATRE MUSEUM CANADA  
Will Celebrates Actor Ron Braden's Life in Theatre

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday October 8, 2014 (For Immediate Release)

(TORONTO) – With profound gratitude Theatre Museum Canada thanks actor **Ron Braden** (1931-2012) for the charitable gift of \$548,000 made in his Will. The largest donation ever made to Theatre Museum Canada, it creates The Gertrude Isobelle Braden Fund, named after his mother, and will help the organization preserve Canadian theatre heritage for future generations.

“Ron was very clear that the work of the museum was important to him.” Says singer and actor **Tania Parrish**, a neighbour and close friend. “He was a volunteer and helped organize material donated to the museum by his good friends Jean Roberts and Marigold Charlesworth.”

**Marlene Smith**, Theatre Museum Board Chair adds “Theatre and being an actor are all about imagination – and so was leaving a charitable gift in his Will. Ron will never see what his gift makes possible, but the work of the museum is being supported today – and throughout the future – by his charitable donation.

“In 2010 Theatre Museum announced plans for a permanent home” Smith continued “and this will help to realize that dream. This is truly a transformative donation to a cause Ron Braden cared about deeply.”

**About Theatre Museum Canada**

Founded in 1991, Theatre Museum Canada is a registered charity that seeks to share the wonder of Canada's rich theatre legacy with Canadians and theatre enthusiasts everywhere. Our broad range of programming includes special exhibits at the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) and the Macdonald Heaslip Walkway of Theatre History at Hart House Theatre, the **Theatre Museum Goes Backstage** series of public learning events and caring for a growing collection of theatre artefacts.

Our most popular program is the **Legend Library** of videotaped interviews conducted by actor R.H. Thomson with pioneers of Canadian theatre posted online at: [www.TheatreMuseumCanada.ca](http://www.TheatreMuseumCanada.ca).

Planning is underway for a year-round home at **King Blue by Greenland**, a condominium, retail and hotel project at the corner of King Street West and Blue Jays Way in the heart of Toronto's Entertainment District.

Theatre Museum Canada is privileged to have as our Honorary Patron renowned Canadian actor Christopher Plummer. President of the Board is the noted theatre producer Marlene Smith. We acknowledge the financial support from the Ontario Arts Council (OAC), an agency of the Government of Ontario, and are grateful for the ongoing support of the William and Nona Heaslip Foundation.

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